

**LINK ADAPTATION ALGORITHM FOR PACKET BASED RADIO SYSTEM**  
**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method is disclosed for operating a channel coder, as is a channel coder that operates in accordance with the method. The method includes steps of (a) maintaining a first count (N\_Number) of transmitted packets and a second count (K\_Number) of packets that are erroneously decoded at a receiver; (b) periodically performing a plurality of statistical tests using current values of the first and second counts; and (c) based on a result of the statistical tests, controlling the channel coder to either maintain a current channel coding technique or to switch to another channel coding technique. The step of controlling includes a further step of resetting the first count and the second count.